

Valley Women's Voice
c/o Everywoman's Center
Wilder Hall-UMass
Amherst, MA 01003
545-2436

Forbes Library
West Street
Northampton MA 01060

S0685

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 58
Amherst, MA 01003

Valley Women's Voice

June, 1985

vol. VII, issue V

Bomb Threat at Womonfyre

by Kathleen Offenhartz

Tuesday, May 21st, the Northampton feminist bookstore, Womonfyre, was the target of harassment by an individual identifying himself as a member of the National Socialist (Nazi) Party. After evacuating the area, police found an empty grenade shell and a note which began, "Lesbians must die."

The Valley Woman's Voice talked with one of the owners of the store, Jil, about the threat.

Jil was informed by telephone Tuesday evening that "someone had called the state police . . . at around 8:30 pm," she said, "and described in detail that they had observed a man placing a bomb in the store, taping it to a window, with a timer attached to the window of a car."

When Jil arrived at the bookstore, police had evacuated the entire Chambers Building, which as well as Womonfyre contains private apartments, the Mercantile, the Iron Horse, and other stores. They had also cordoned off the area and evacuated nearby Taco Villa.

The police did not find a bomb taped to one of the windows but did find a paper bag outside the store, near the doorway. They tied a string to the bag and moved away from it.

"When they yanked on it," recalled Jil, the bag ripped because it was taped to the ground. "Out rolled the grenade." The police informed her then that it was a defused grenade, but she found out later that it was just the shell of one, without any of its inner parts. There was a note with it, of which Jil later saw a photocopy. "It said, 'Lesbians must die,' in big bold letters, underlined, and something about how, 'You are the ones ruining this country . . . Your morals will not be tolerated.'" As Jil described, the note also had a strange X in the middle, and was signed by the National Socialist Party. At the bottom were three swastikas.

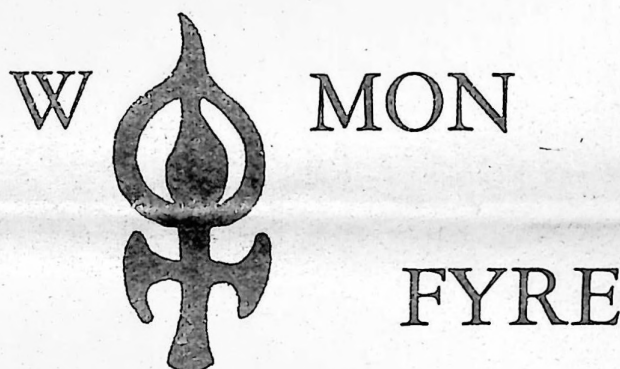
Police later told Jil that the man who had warned them of the bomb knew quite a bit about bombs, and was probably a Vietnam veteran. The police also "assumed he was white, I don't know how." Jil noted that the note was written in a similar style of writing to threats the store had received two years before. Bob Kremnski, later convicted for this harassment, is now out on parole after spending six weeks in jail.

The next morning, Jil arrived slightly late to open the store, because she did not get home Tuesday

evening until 12:30 am. The first call of the morning was from a man asking to speak to the manager. Jil answered that she was. She recalls that he then told her, "I'm a member of the National Socialist Party and I just wanted to let you know that we were the ones responsible for the bomb," and I said, 'What bomb?' trying to get

him to talk. He didn't reply but just kept right on with what he'd intended to say: 'and we are going to bomb you again and this time it's really going to go off,' and hung up." Jil describes the caller as a man in his 20's or 30's with a very clear voice and no accent.

cont'd on p. 11



State Closes Closet Door

by Marcia Day

Recently, after extensive screening by the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, two openly gay men were made foster parents of two young children in Boston. The Department changed its mind when neighbors expressed concern over the placement; it removed the children from the care of Donald Babets and David Jean.

DSS social workers and supervisors, along with the children's mother, knew of the two men's sexuality as well as of their good character and credentials. Yet in response to homophobic pressure to save the "normal" nuclear family, Department head Philip Johnston issued a regulation that threatens to prohibit lesbians and gay men from serving as foster parents.

There is a critical shortage of foster parents in Massachusetts, and the male couple's names are still in the pool of potential parents, but the DSS has not indicated that it will consider them again. The Department ruling in effect puts gay men and lesbians at the bottom of the list. In the future, not only foster parents but those seeking to adopt or receive guardianship of a child will be asked if they are homosexual.

The issue went on to the Massachusetts House, which voted overwhelmingly to ban lesbians and gay men from managing homes for children, having custody of children or caring for them in a legal capacity. Among other things, this legislation implies that while two women may be raising a child together now, the death or severely disabling accident of the biological mother would mean the child's removal from his or her "other mother", because of her sexual preference.

As of this printing, a community meeting was to be held in Boston on June 2, before the Massachusetts Senate put the question to a vote on Monday June 3. The DSS regulation makes it highly unlikely, but not impossible, that a gay person could be made guardian of a relative's child. The House and Senate rulings would make even this loving responsibility to a lost or disabled family member, against the law.

On Wednesday, June 5 an emergency meeting of Gay and Lesbian Activists (GALA) was held in Northampton. Regarding the foster parent issue and local community harassment, the meeting was to share information and form strategies counteracting the swing to the right which is gaining momentum and mainstream support. If you need help and/or information on further meetings and actions, contact GALA at 586-9340 -- Box 1084, Northampton MA 01061.

CREDITS

CONTRIBUTORS:

Sylvia Battey, Karen Brandow, Jane Cleland (photo's), Marcia Day, Elizabeth Gordon, Julie Martinez, Kathleen Offenhartz, Dijana Renison, Annasuya Weil (photo's), Janis T.B. Wolf

NEWSBRIEFS:

Marcia Day
Satrupa

GRAPHICS:

Natalie Krebs

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER:

Haley

TYPING:

Marcia Day

TYPESETTING:

Kathleen Offenhartz

ADVERTISING:

Kathleen Offenhartz

CO-EDITORS:

Marcia Day, Kathleen Offenhartz

*With Special Thanks
to Sylvia Battey,
our Mentor*

DISTRIBUTION:

Sylvia Battey, Marcia Day, Everywoman's Center women, Haley, Kathleen Offenhartz, Marie Patten, Barbara Steinberg-Punis, and more

All letters to the editor present the views of the author only. No statement in any letter to the editor represents any official position of the Valley Women's Voice, the Student Government Association, the administration or trustees of UMass, or the State Board of Regents.

LETTERS



Female Sexual Slavery

by Stacey Winkley

Slavery--although we would like to believe that it has been abolished, it still thrives in the United States and in other countries. I am talking specifically about female sexual slavery. It is any situation where women or girls cannot alter the immediate conditions of their existence; regardless of how they got into these conditions, they cannot get out; and where they are subject to sexual violence and exploitation.

The enslavement of women and children is manifested in many ways. Each year, several thousand girls disappear from Paris, many of them destined for Arab harems. The police know about it but cannot prove it. (Kathleen Barry, 1979)

Countries like Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines provide sex tours for Japanese and European men. These packaged vacations include airfare, hotel, and unlimited sexual use of women, sometimes with the option to buy them. Of the 700,000 women in prostitution in Thailand in 1982, it is estimated that 200,000 are used for sex tourism--in the name of economic development. (Barry, 1984)

In the United States, female sexual slavery exists, mainly in the form of forced prostitution. Over 90% of prostitutes are controlled by pimps and many cannot escape them. In New York City in 1975, official police statistics reported 71 prostitution homicides. At least 54 of them were committed by pimps or johns. (Barry, 1979)

The list goes on: arranged marriages in Morocco, female genital mutilation in Africa, and child pornography in America. These are not isolated tragedies, but part of our patriarchal society and male domination. Female sexual slavery constitutes violence against women and children. Female enslavement means women being denied the right to their bodies, their sexuality, employment without exploitation, and to a life free from harm. We can ignore it no longer.

An Open Letter to All Area Women

LaMix is standing on shaky ground. You have the power to revitalize this organization--it's as simple as that.

Currently, LaMix is two womyn, who as organizers and D.J.'s present dances for womyn at the Amherst lounge, Changes. We have been together for three years and our mailing list has grown to over 250 names.

We strive to offer you good dance music in a clean, comfortable space for the only exclusively womyn's dance available on a regular basis. LaMix is a unique alternative for any woman who wants a dance which includes only womyn. If this is important to you, please support us.

The survival of LaMix is threatened by low attendance over the past couple of months which has pushed us into the red. We must rent the bar in order to have a private party. We need to have 75 womyn walk through the door just to cover this cost. A doorperson and our mailings are other tangible expenses.

Money beyond this goes into our record buying fund--we haven't gotten to this point in many months. Quite a number of you on our mailing list have not come to a dance in a long time.

Summer is usually a time of increased energy and interest in socializing. LaMix is scheduled to offer a dance at Changes every Sunday night throughout the summer. Our ability to follow through on this plan really depends on you. Our new motto is: USE IT OR LOSE IT!

Womyn, please come back and party with LaMix.

Sincerely,
Mary V. and Faye
LaMix

Stories of Choices

As you've no doubt noticed, some basic human rights are currently being threatened by those who would impose their ideas of morality on others. Chief among those who would take away our rights are our president and some of his supporters who, unfortunately, receive quite a bit of media attention.

Because of this threat and its treatment by the media, it is more important than ever for people to come forward and let their elected officials know how important the right to choose, whether or not to have a child, is to them personally in their family planning.

The National Abortion Rights Action League and Mass. Choice are collecting letters from men and women telling their stories, or the stories of their friends and relatives, who have either made the decision to terminate a pregnancy or who have been able to consider other options knowing that legal abortions were available.

Letters can be sent to Mass. Choice, 14 Beacon St., Room 419, Boston MA, 02108. The letters will then be forwarded to the White House and members of Congress. People who cannot sign their names can sign Jane Roe, in honor of the Texas woman who brought the historic Roe vs. Wade case to the U.S. Supreme Court, but should include their city, state and zip code to help in sorting the letters.

You can call Everywoman's Center at 545-0883 for a suggested format for the letters, or for help and support in telling your story. We can be silent no more. Our voices must be heard; our stories must be told.

Beth Berry

Yes, there will be a Summer Issue!

We need women to help out by submitting articles, poetry, graphics, photographs, ideas, and by coming in to help us with layout and typing. Call us to find out more: 545-2436 (leave a message if we're not in, we'll get back to you).

Deadline for the Summer Issue: July 13

Production will be the weekend of the 20th and 21st --plan to join us for a mega-boogie time!

Deadline for September: August 10

This issue will include a special section on area women's resources; look for more details next issue.

Camera Ready

Full Page.....	\$448.00
Half Page.....	\$240.00
Quarter Page (2 col x 8") or (4 x 4").....	\$128.00
Eighth Page (1 col x 8") or (2 x 4").....	\$64.00
Sixteenth Page (2 col x 2") or (1 x 4").....	\$32.00
Thirty-Second Page (1 col x 2").....	\$16.00
Business Card Size.....	\$18.00
Classified Ads.....	\$.25/word

Display and Classified Ad Rates

Contract Discount

3 issues.....	5%
6 issues.....	8%
9 issues.....	12%

Additional Charges

typesetting/layout:
add \$2.00/col inch

camera work:
add \$5.00 to total
graphic artwork:
add \$2.00/col inch

An additional 10% may be subtracted from your cost IF payment accompanies ad. (For contracts, payment must accompany your ad on a monthly basis).

If payment does not accompany ad, it is due within seven days of publication.

In lieu of "tear sheets", all advertisers will receive a complimentary copy of the issue in which their advertisement appears.

A column inch is 2 1/2 inches wide by 1 inch long. At this time the maximum ad size (a full page) is 4 x 16.

Newsbriefs

Papers in Peril Part II

This month the Valley Women's Voice received two letters from disbanding collectives of women whose publications are folding. The New Women's Times and the Feminist Review will no longer be printed, and if the Lesbian Inciter can not be turned over to dedicated others, it too will cease to exist.

In the April 1985 issue of the VWV some calls were published from women's newspapers whose survival in their present form is at stake. Here in part is what the New Women's Times collective has to say in analysis of the situation:

"At a time when women and feminism are under attack everywhere by the right-wing backlash, we need sisterhood and solidarity more than ever. Our male-supremacist society makes it almost impossible for women to get money, to establish permanent feminist institutions, to keep the history and gains of the past decade from disappearing, to make our voices heard above the neo-fascist clamor, or to call anything our own --bodies, minds, or souls. Or newspapers.

"Our task has been made more difficult by several other factors. In addition to two costly lawsuits (one of which challenged our right to our name because the phrase 'New Woman' is owned by the male publishers of 'New Woman' magazine), we have made managerial and editorial mistakes over the years.

"Burnout has affected old staff members, and we have found it more and more difficult to recruit long-term, sustaining volunteer help, which, as a not-for-profit organization, has always been essential to our survival.

"We believe that this is due to the worsening economic situation for women, and to two other factors: first, the large-scale movement of women from feminist activism to peace and anti-nuclear work; and second, the choice of many women to concentrate on personal life-styles and careers (many made possible by feminist activism) at the expense of their former political commitment--the so-called 'Yuppie' syndrome.

"Women must renew feminist identity, community and activism if the hard-won gains of the last ten years are not to be eroded or obliterated. For example, some college women's groups and women's studies departments are no longer allowed to call themselves 'feminist'. We happen to believe that feminist is an important word--that unless we maintain that crucial identity we run the risk of entering another period of silence, isolation and invisibility, such as that which followed the gaining of the right to vote.

"We urge you to continue to grow and to work for women's rights as feminists. Feminism is transforming not only the U.S. but the entire world, but while much has been changed much remains to be done. Abortion rights are in peril; the ERA must be revived; comparable pay for women must be fought for, and all forms of the woman-hating that pervades our society must be challenged and defeated.

"Thank you for all your support over the last 10 years of the NWT and almost 7 years of the FR. In a very real sense, this has been YOUR newspaper.

"In sisterhood, the New Women's Times collective"

Lesbian Nuns

The serial rights to four stories from Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence were sold for an unknown amount by publisher Naiad Press to Forum, a "soft-porn" magazine with an eighty-five percent male readership owned by Penthouse.

Three of the four stories appear in the June issue, which lists "Sex Lives of Lesbian Nuns" as the lead feature on its cover (along with articles on sex standing-up and "yuppie orgasm"). The article, "Lesbian Nuns: True Confessions of Homosexuality in the Convent," is illustrated with a picture of a nun, eyes upcast, holding an apple from which a bite is missing and a serpent is emerging.

The excerpts, all written under pseudonyms, are among the only stories in the book with any sexually explicit content. The stories appear among ads for "pussie panties", dildoes, and X-rated video cassettes. The issue also contains a review of On Our Backs, described by the Forum headline as "A Hot New Magazine for Lust Lesbians."

The editors and contributors to the anthology, having signed over their rights to their work to the publisher, had no knowledge of the sale to Forum until it was completed. Said editor Rosemary Curb, "It makes me shudder to think of men reading these passages." In a letter to the feminist newsjournal off our backs, contributor Joanne Morrow wrote: "None of us resolves our issues of sexuality and religion/spirituality without blood, sweat and tears. The editors know this from their own experiences, and the experiences shared with them by hundreds of women. It is heartless and cruel to expose their experiences, which were offered in trust to the women's community, with a press that will reduce their lives to sex, for the titillation of heterosexual men."

(GCN/oob/Sojourner)

Comparable Worth Victory!

In a major victory for the idea of comparable worth, the city of Los Angeles agreed to bring the wages of 3,900 women holding traditionally low-paying jobs in line with those of men in jobs at the same level.

The increases, retroactive to April 1, 1985, will bring the salaries of secretaries, clerks, and librarians, at least seventy-five percent of whom are women, close to wages paid for jobs of similar skill levels dominated by men (e.g., gardeners, garage attendants, drivers, and maintenance personnel).

"This is the first major city that has used comparable worth as a basis for setting wages," according to Cheryl Parisi, a spokesperson for the AFSCME, which negotiated the settlement for the city. The agreement, if approved by the city council, will cost the city \$12 million in special salary increases. (NY Times)

Womandollars

The Boston Women's Fund has made its first series of grants. The five recipients are: Traditional Childbearing Group, Inc., which will use the funds for an educational program aimed at reducing infant and maternal mortality among the poor;

Chimera Anon, a support network for pregnant Black teenagers, run by the Muslim Training and General Civilization Class;

Finex House, a shelter for battered women of special needs; the Coalition for Basic Human Needs, which fights for the rights of welfare recipients;

and Massachusetts Women of Color, which studies problems faced by women of color across the state.

(Sojourner)

Family Thwarts Recovery

Karen Thompson is fighting for legal guardianship of her lover, Sharon Kowalski, who became a quadriplegic in 1983 after a car accident caused by a drunk driver.

Karen and Sharon lived together in Briggs Lake, Minnesota for four years before the November, 1983 accident, neither woman telling her parents she was a lesbian. After the accident, Sharon was hospitalized in St. Cloud for eight months, and Karen helped with her care every day.

The Kowalskis, disturbed by Karen's involvement, tried to limit her visiting hours. Karen filed for legal guardianship, then came out to Sharon's family. They denied that Sharon was a lesbian, calling Karen "sick" and "crazy," and accused Karen of trying to sexually abuse their daughter.

Sharon's parents were awarded guardianship in April, 1984, with the provisions that Sharon remain in St. Cloud and Karen be allowed "equal access" to visitations and to medical staff consultations.

Las September, the family filed successfully to have Sharon moved to Duluth, 150 miles away. Karen visits Sharon every weekend, and says she is not receiving adequate care.

Sharon's recovery has virtually stopped since the move. She no longer speaks, eats, or laughs, and spends most of her day sleeping. In her suit, Karen is asking that Sharon be returned to St. Cloud and eventually to the house they purchased together.

Affidavits filed by nurses, doctors and therapists say Karen is clearly necessary to Sharon's recovery. Karen has already accumulated \$30,000 in legal expenses, only \$5,000 of which she has been able to pay.

The Minnesota Gay and Lesbian Legal Assistance has taken over major fundraising for Karen and Sharon. Tax-deductible donations can be sent c/o Suzanne Born, 3436 Holmes Avenue, Minneapolis MN 55408.

(Coming Up! oob/Sojourner)

Subscribe!

No Retrial for Big Dan's Case

A Massachusetts Superior Court judge denied requests for a new trial for four men convicted in the Big Dan's rape in New Bedford. Justice William Young, who presided over the 1984 trial, issued a sixty-five-page decision addressing more than a half-dozen arguments raised by the defense in seeking a retrial. The case will now be referred automatically to the state Court of Appeals. (Boston Globe/Sojourner)

State's Rights?

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case on state's rights to restrict abortions, Thornburgh v. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Pennsylvania wants to reinstate a law struck down last year by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The law required that minors obtain parental consent or a court order before obtaining abortions, that doctors try to keep alive potentially viable fetuses and that women must be told of the "detrimental effects" of abortion and of the possibility of obtaining financial aid or adoption if the woman does not have an abortion.

In 1983, the Supreme Court by a vote of 6-3 struck down an Akron, Ohio law restricting abortion that was similar to the Pennsylvania law.

Abortion rights groups fear that the court accepted the Thornburgh case because it wants to revise its 1983 decision. There is a fear that Chief Justice Warren Burger, who voted with the majority on Akron, may have joined Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, William Rehnquist and Byron White, who dissented from the court's Akron ruling. If another justice, such as the ailing Lewis Powell, leaves the court before Thornburgh is heard next fall, he could be replaced by an anti-abortion (oob) justice.

Amnesty Update

Amnesty International has received reports that twenty-six-year-old trade unionist Celita Florida Lucero Lucero and an unidentified female friend were abducted by armed men as they left Florida's house in Guatemala City on April 12, 1985. There has been no news of their whereabouts since.

Trade unionists have been targeted for repression in Guatemala for several years. On June 21, 1980, twenty-five leaders in the National Congress of Guatemalan Workers were detained by members of the National Police as they met at union headquarters to plan the funeral of another CNT leader who was abducted on June 20, 1980 and whose body was found the next day bearing marks of torture and gunshot wounds.

Cars belonging to some of the missing people were later seen in police garages, but the fate of the twenty-five union leaders is unknown.

Successive administrations in Guatemala have claimed that massive "disappearances" and extra-judicial executions of government opponents have actually been the work of "extremist" groups "out of government

After studying thousands of cases over many years, however, Amnesty International has concluded that active and reserve members of all branches of the Guatemalan military have carried out political abductions under orders, in the guise of so-called death squads.

Readers are urged to send courteous letters expressing concern about reports of the abduction of Florida and her friend, and requesting that an investigation be held to establish their whereabouts, that they be humanely treated if detained, and that they be released unless charged with a recognizable criminal offense and brought to a court of law.

Appeals should be sent to:

General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores
Jefe de Estado y Ministro de Defensa
Palacio Nacional
Guatemala, Guatemala

For further information, call or write: Paula Jackson, Amnesty International, 1675 Mass. Ave., Cambridge MA 02138 (617-547-9295).

The Feminist Forecast:

Astrological Tidal Changes for Women of the Valley Region



by Elizabeth Gordon

Welcome to June and warm weather that promises, at last, to be consistent. The Full Moon for this month occurs at nine minutes to midnight on the 2nd. The sign position is Sagittarius in the 13th degree. Those born in the first week of December and June will feel this lunation more strongly than others. Please consult your astrologer for details that may make the difference.

This fiery lunation reveals three distinctly different astrological tidal influences affecting our region. The first and probably the strongest begins in the early hours of Sunday, the 2nd and culminates with the Full Moon at midnight. This influence is Uranian and stressful by nature.

Uranus is the planet of the sudden and unpredictable, forcing us to reorganize whatever was thrown into chaos by its cataclysmic and disruptive energy. Its action is extreme and can bring disaster or amazing good fortune.

If the weather is warm and the sky clear this midnight, we may be able to witness the conjunction of the Full Moon and Uranus, a planet not usually visible without the aid of a telescope. The joining of these two celestial bodies will take place almost directly overhead, at the zenith of the nighttime sky. Uranus will be slightly to the left of the Moon as they move together across the heavens.

Astrologically, this position at the zenith is extremely powerful and influential. In horary astrology it rules the employer, the judge in court cases, and the law as it is being enforced by a police officer while you try to explain your way out of a \$25 speeding ticket.

In Natal or birth chart astrology it rules the parent who is a figure of authority. A stressfully aspected Saturn passing through this area (the 10th house) can cause a great fall from power, as was the case with Richard Nixon's impeachment.

As would be expected, this house signifies those who rule nations, cities and towns. One of the interpretations of Uranus in this house is an exposé of secret activities on the part of our administrators. Though these activities are not in

the best interests of the people (especially the working class for which Uranus has a special affinity) the uncovering of them will be.

Those of you familiar with astrology and those who have been following the *Feminist Forecast* will recognize the presence of a benefic influence—a combination of them in this case, led by the planet Jupiter. This, the best known benefic, is beautifully positioned in the first house, where we the people reside as a group.

This good luck sphere, a minor sun in its own right, magnanimously blesses us, our homes and families, our comings and goings, our positions in employment. These changes may even restore to us some of the authority that is rightfully ours.

Cont'd on pg. 14

Newsbriefs, cont'd

Ethiopian Rapes

Interviews with Ethiopian refugees resettled in the U.S. indicate that almost all women refugees crossing from Ethiopia into Djibouti (a small country on the Gulf of Aden, bordering Ethiopia and Eritrea) were raped at the border. The women report that they were separated from male refugees for "questioning" and threatened with return to Ethiopia, the denial or destruction of vital identity cards, or physical violence. Ethiopian women are also frequently raped by police who pick them up on the streets in Djibouti City on various pretexts. (*Womanews*)

Rape Charge Dismissed for Lateness

Pennsylvania Common Pleas judge J. Quint Salmon dismissed rape charges against a twenty-eight-year-old Pittsburgh man when his alleged victim—a fourteen-year-old girl—and her mother were late for the start of the trial. Protesters representing several anti-rape organizations demanded that Salmon, in the words of one of them, "be fired, run out of the country, and held responsible for the next rape victim." Salmon declined comment. (*Boston Globe*)

Revenge in Egypt

A twenty-two-year-old woman was arrested in Cairo, Egypt for putting nearly twenty male cab drivers to sleep and stealing their money. The woman, Nahed Fahmy, reportedly said she fed the drivers pieces of cake stuffed with sleeping pills because several Cairo taxi drivers have recently been charged with kidnapping and rape. (*Boston Globe*)

Lawsuit on Weight Discrimination Won

ALBANY, NY--New York state's Court of Appeals has ruled that Xerox Corp. must compensate a woman whom it denied employment on the grounds that she was too fat.

In 1974, the company denied Catherine McDermott a job as a systems analyst because she weighed 249 pounds. A company doctor said her weight was "gross obesity."

McDermott, who is now 67, has pursued the case since then, writing her own legal briefs. She estimates that she is owed more than \$100,000 in back pay and benefits.

--info from *The Washington Post*

Sperm Bank & Surrogate Parenting Bills

Bills aimed at regulating surrogate parenting services and artificial insemination have been introduced before the Washington, D.C. city council. The Sperm Bank Licensure and Regulation Act of 1985 extends the definition of "sperm bank" to include "an individual . . . handling semen . . . for the purpose of facilitating [alternative insemination]." According to Michele Zavos, co-chair of the D.C. Bar's Subcommittee on Lesbian and Gay Rights, this definition could prohibit lesbians from artificially inseminating their friends or lovers without a city license. The bill might also be interpreted to require that physicians hold licenses and be present at inseminations by non-physicians—provisions that could reduce the availability of the procedure and increase the cost. The Surrogate Parenting Regulation Act consistently refers to "the natural father and his wife," making no specific provisions for unmarried women or men who might

wish to contract with a surrogate mother. "It leaves things in limbo—and that's the most dangerous thing," said Zavos. No action is expected on either bill before late spring. (*Gay Community News*)

And That's 100% for Sojourner (and the WV)!

USA Today has the highest percentage of page-one articles written by women (forty-two percent), while only ten percent of the articles appearing on the first page of the *New York Times* are by women, according to the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. The Fund looked at the front pages of eleven of the top newspapers in the country between September 13-31, 1984, and January 7-20, 1985. The overall rank of the newspapers was: *USA Today*, *Boston Globe* (thirty-two percent), *Atlanta Journal* (thirty-one percent), *Washington Post* (twenty-six percent), *Detroit Free Press* (twenty-six percent), *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (twenty-two percent), *Chicago Tribune* (nineteen percent), *Wall Street Journal* (nineteen percent), *Philadelphia Inquirer* (eighteen percent), *Los Angeles Times* (eighteen percent), and the *New York Times*. Overall, less than one-quarter of the articles appearing on the front pages of the country's leading newspapers were by women.

The study is the second in a series of updates on women and the media produced by the NOW-LDEF's Women's Media Project. The first study examined the percentage of women reporting evening network TV news during a month-long viewing period. The total percentage of stories filed by women on all three commercial networks was 10.2 percent, up only

three-tenths of one percent from 1974. Women reported fifteen percent of the stories on CBS, and eight percent of the stories on both ABC and NBC.

originally titled, "And That's 100% for Sojourner"

New "Morning After" Pills

Two drug companies have developed "morning after" pills which they claim induce abortion with far fewer side effects than existing drugs. French pharmaceutical maker Roussel Uclaf hopes to get its product on the market within three years; Sterling Drug, Inc. will not make any predictions but, according to *Business Week*, "praised the drug at a recent meeting with securities analysts." The drugs, both of which are non-hormonal steroids, terminate pregnancy by blocking the action of progesterone, and either prevent the egg from attaching to the uterine wall or induce menstruation and the discharge of the egg. The abortion-inducing drugs currently on the market are based on prostaglandins that create uterine contractions; the drugs often have serious side effects such as nausea, diarrhea, phlebitis, and fever. Both companies see a major market for the drugs as an alternative to the fifty to sixty million surgical abortions performed worldwide annually. Some analysts also predict that the new drugs could make significant inroads into the \$697 million market for oral contraceptives. (*Business Week*)

Articles Reprinted from
Sojourner

And for those Rainy Days of Summer . . .

DECADE FOR WOMEN DIARY

The United Nations declared the years 1975-1985 as the Decade for Women with the theme of Equality, Development and Peace in order to draw attention to the inequalities suffered by women and to encourage governments throughout the world to take positive action on behalf of women.

Women continue to play a central role in the relentless struggle against economic, political and social exploitation as well as serving as the main force against the exploitative system which threatens to annihilate the very existence of humanity.

The role, contribution and achievements of Southern African women in this struggle remain largely unrecognized outside Southern Africa. To highlight these achievements as representative of the millions of women engaged in the struggle, a Decade for Women Diary has been published by the Feminist International for Peace and Food.

The Diary contains profiles of Southern African women in words and pictures as well as basic information on their struggles and achievements

and is illustrated with 50 black and white photographs.

The Feminist International for Peace and Food is an organization of women from 12 countries dedicated to peace, with the elimination of violence, both personal and institutional as an immediate goal.

All proceeds from the sale of this diary will go towards a fund to be used by Third World women for projects designed and developed by them.

To order the Decade for Women Diary, send \$5.50 plus \$1.10 for postage and handling to:

Feminist International for Peace and Food (FIPF)
c/o 15 Sylvan Avenue
London N22
ENGLAND

FIGHTING BACK

Just published is **FIGHTING BACK: Lesbian and Gay Draft, Military, and Veterans' Issues**, a comprehensive counseling manual with analysis of pertinent regulations on homosexuality and step-by-step guidance for draft, military, and veterans cases,

Designed for counselors and attorneys, **Fighting Back** is also of value to military personnel, veterans, draft-age men, and all those concerned with the military's policy towards lesbians and gay men.

Fighting Back is sponsored by the Midwest Committee for Military Counseling, and by the National Lawyers Guild's Military Law Task Force, Gay Rights Task Force, and National Committee to Combat Women's Oppression.

Single copies are available for \$14.25, plus 2.00 postage from MCMC, 241 S. Wabash, Chicago IL 60605; or write for information on bulk prices.

DISABLED WOMEN'S ANTHOLOGY

June brings the publication of **WITH THE POWER OF EACH BREATH: A Disabled Woman's Anthology**, edited by Susan Browne, Debra Connors and Nanci Stern.

Intended as a resource for examining and challenging able-ism in both the mainstream and the women's movement, **With the Power of Each Breath** is an essential

tool for students of women's studies, sociology, psychology and public health, as well as all feminist and social service organizations, according to Cleis Press, publishers of the anthology.

"Disability is not a medical problem; nor is able-ism just a set of prejudicial ideas about disabled people," writes Debra Connors, editor, "Disability is a societal institution...Disabled women have worked hard to find each other. When we meet, there is an instinctive connection, a familiarity and an excitement."

"Disabled women have been absent from most feminist and nearly all patriarchal literature," say the editors, "Perhaps we are the only ones who have taken notice. **With the Power of Each Breath** is an important work of resistance against institutionalized silence."

The 360-page paperback will be priced at \$9.95; for more information write to Cleis Press at P.O. Box 8933, Pittsburgh PA 15221, or watch your local bookstore shelves.

Susan Ritter
attorney at law

Complete Civil Practice Including
Divorces • Adoptions • Immigration
Real Estate (buying or selling)
Bankruptcy • Small Business Matters



16 Center Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Pearls

**The Birthstone of June,
We have the Finest in Cultured
and Freshwater Pearl Jewelry**

silverscape designs

Goldsmiths • Gem Gallery
3 Pleasant St. Northampton 584-3324
264 N. Pleasant St. Amherst 253-3324



The Original!



Thomas Marketplace • Old South St. Entrance
Northampton • Open daily 11:30 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 'til Midnight • 546-4837

Tetty E. Gorfine



feminist, lesbian,
& bisexual therapy

individual, couple, group, supervision

office
253-2822

home
253-5637

Chiropractor

Dr. Lloyd J. Lachow
278 Main St.,
Greenfield MA 01301

**Call for a
Free Consultation
774-3348**



GOLIARD BOOKSHOP LTD

Z G E F G R M O Y G T Q

27 North Pleasant St., Amherst U.S.A. 253-3044



Find yours...

**in the mailbox every
month:**

Subscribe!

to the Valley Women's Voice. We'll send you 12 issues for \$8, and if you send us a check by July 13, a special summer issue will come to your home. Don't wait! Send before midnight tonight to:

Valley Women's Voice
c/o Everywoman's Center
Wilder Hall, UMass
Amherst MA 01003

Sarah Dreher, Ph.D. • Elisabeth Brook, M.Ed.

**Feminist therapists, serving individual
women and lesbian couples.**

**Eclectic. Sliding Scale. Insurance accepted.
affordable**

21 Valley View Dr., Amherst, 256-8397



ACUPUNCTURE

**Specializing in
Women's Health Care**

Rebecca Birkel, C.Ac.

549-5614

Free 1st Treatment with this Ad

Bart's
HOMEMADE



ICE CREAM EMPORIUMS

• **NORTHAMPTON** •
across from Academy of Music

AMHERST Boltwood Walk

Rights of the Unborn:

The Jeopardization of Safe birth and its Longterm Effects

Birth choices are being threatened in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Obstetricians in this state, as well as physicians, would like to see midwifery and home birth options made unavailable. Along with the pressure to force a woman to carry a child to term, the means by which she delivers the child are in danger of being severely limited.

Dr. Frederick Leboyer, a French obstetrician, wrote *Birth Without Violence* to expose the insensitivity of traditional hospital births toward a new human being who has just emerged from the once peaceful womb after hours of unavoidable tumult and pain.

As the fetus grows, the womb becomes more cramped. The developing baby eventually fills up all of the womb. When labor begins, spasms are experienced which in time become overwhelming compressions. The baby is forced into the birth canal where its head and body turn in a corkscrew motion.

To some, this sudden change of environment is frightening. There is no reassurance in a hospital that the outside world is loving and safe, says Leboyer. The lights are too bright. Burning fluids are put into the eyes. The placenta is cut immediately and the baby is forced to breathe. The dry cool air is a shock to lungs that have only known amniotic fluid.

Often the baby, whose spine has grown in a curvature, is abruptly straightened and finds her/himself upside down. The metal scale is cold and it stings. Throughout this happy event the baby is full of fear and confusion.

Other crucial birth factors include the use of drugs, forceps, incubators and the senses of panic at separation from the mother, the attitude of the persons present. Birth trauma is the critical experience of birth which is imprinted on the psyche, affecting the life-long breathing habits.

It is that first thought which is the primal thought. It is the first breath which determines one's own breathing pattern. Damage to the breathing mechanism happens when the first breath is a forced or traumatized one. The natural impulse to breathe fully and freely

is impaired when the first breath was associated with pain and shock.

This primal response to fear can be seen when someone surprises you from behind, maybe saying "boo!" The typical response is a huge gasp. While watching a horror movie, the breathing becomes short and shallow; you literally "hold your breath". When a tense or angry moment has passed, you breathe a deep sigh of relief.

Rebirthing is a process which uses conscious connected breathing to restore the breathing mechanism and unravel primal thought patterns, releasing acquired negativity. The result is greater relaxation, stronger intuition, higher quality relationships, deeper spiritual understanding, and more joy.

A home birth or one delivered by midwives cannot alleviate all birth trauma, but can be greatly lessened depending on the consciousness and awareness going into the birth. Many rebirthers volunteer their services to pregnant women out of a commitment to the process of bringing children safely into a world of fear, confusion, war and uncertainty.

Incidentally, if the parents or birth attendants have a great deal of birth trauma themselves, they can subtly pass this on to the baby. Their subconscious fear around their own birth will be brought out by experiencing another live birth. For this reason, obstetricians have been known to be the hardest to rebirth.

Dr. Eve Jones, whose background is in endocrinology and neuropharmacology, explains rebirthing as providing the brain with the same milieu that prevailed during most of gestation when placental exchange ensured the fetus a continual supply of oxygen and constant removal of wastes.

Deep breathing, Dr. Jones says, not only opens lung space that has been paralyzed with remembered fear but also opens the capillary beds in the deep substance of the brain. She suggests that the connected breathing of rebirthing causes cerebrospinal fluid in the lateral ventricles to become chemically identical to its composition during gestation and birth. In the process

birth information is released by memory RNA.

Another explanation says that the full, free breathing fills the body with large amounts of gaseous nutrients which reach the cells through the bloodstream. Anything contrary to this life-sustaining energy is forced out in the form of toxins, pain, carbon dioxide, and negative thoughts. Dr. Jones also found in her work that 70% of body wastes are released through breathing, while 20% pass through the skin; urination eliminates only 7% and defecation 3%.

A recent birth-related study was conducted by Cornell University's Professor Lee Salk in collaboration with researchers at Brown University. The study sought reasons for teenage and young adult suicides occurring at a rate 300 times that of thirty years ago.

On examining birth records of 52 people between the ages of 12 and 20 who committed suicide in Rhode Island between February 1975 and March 1983, three specific risk factors were found to be present: respiratory distress for more than an hour after birth, chronic disease of the mother during pregnancy, and no prenatal care or medical attention before 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Two control groups totalled 104 other teenagers. Of the suicide victims, 60% had one or more factors present. Of one control group, 19.3% fit into that category and of the other, 11.5%. As a rebirther, I feel this data shows the absurdity of even considering a hospital/homebirth or midwife debate.

Ina May Gaskin, author and pioneer of *Spiritual Midwifery*, spoke recently at the Rowe Conference Center. She mentioned the experience of having her first child, a hospital birth with anesthesia. She said that every time a crisis was going on with her son, she could never get to him, physically or emotionally. She couldn't explain why.

A woman attending the conference said her experience had been very similar. This is a classic pattern of trauma manifesting a memory-linked experience into a physical condition. When forceps have been used, often physical distress such as pains and rashes show up inex-

plicably around the area. People who were born by Cesarean section often fear knives or knives coming at them.

To the average person this sounds far-fetched and even strange, but these correlations between birth trauma and thought patterns are the kinds of things that come up in a rebirth session. These patterns are so basic, so ingrained in who we are, that we may never be aware of them consciously.

An incubator baby, for example, may grow up to prefer glass-enclosed jobs like banks or self-service stations out of a subconscious feeling of safety or a compulsion to re-enact the experience. The same person may create barriers in relationships, preventing other people from getting close to her/him.

When a birth pattern is made clear in a rebirth session, you know it and recognize the ways you have validated it in your everyday life, in your past, in your relationships. It is an opportunity to take control of your own birth experience and to integrate your life through self-acceptance and comfortable changes. The role of the rebirther is to assist your clarity by providing breathing technique and a safe, supportive environment.

The experience of birth is something that is uniquely ours. We can celebrate its gift, breathing freely and fully, giving ourselves permission to love the beauty and awesomeness of our world. We can be responsible for alleviating our personal traumas and negativity.

We can educate ourselves and others to provide new beings with safe and loving birth experiences. We can write our congresspersons in support of Senate Bill 207 (names and addresses available by calling 1-800-392-6090). We can send Massachusetts Friends of Midwives a letter of support with or without a check.

If you'd like to respond to this article or seek additional information, I welcome hearing from you at (413)339-6656 or write to Box 326, Charlemont MA 01339. Dijana Renison lives in Charlemont and will be teaching Breath Awareness classes in the Amherst/Northampton area.

by Sylvia Battey

On April 25 the Third World Women's Program of the Everywoman's Center sponsored a panel presentation on Third World Women's Health and Sterilization Abuse.

The panel consisted of three women: Maria Idalf Torres, Laurie Jefferson and Mikki Aganastata. The film, "La Operacion", which shows the historical development of population policy in Puerto Rico, was also shown.

Maria Idalf Torres was born in Puerto Rico and currently works with the Valley Opportunity Council and is director of the Women and Infant Care Programs in Westfield and Holyoke.

Torres cited current statistics which reveal that one half to two thirds of Hispanic women in the Worcester-Springfield area have been sterilized.

There is a great deal of what Torres called "covert abuse" happening in the U.S. now. Examples of this abuse cited by Torres include a woman choosing sterilization because of socio-economic pressure, cultural, linguistic and value differences, poverty or unemployment, and inaccessibility to abortions because of cutbacks in or loss of Medicaid funding.

An example of discriminatory abuse is that the sterilization is HEW funded while abortion is not.

When all these factors are taken into account, we are left with statistics which reveal that as income decreases, sterilization increases (Welfare Dept. statistics). With a little more than half of the Hispanic populations of Holyoke and Springfield living below poverty level, we see a high occurrence of covert abuse, where primary economic circumstances compel women to "choose" sterilization.

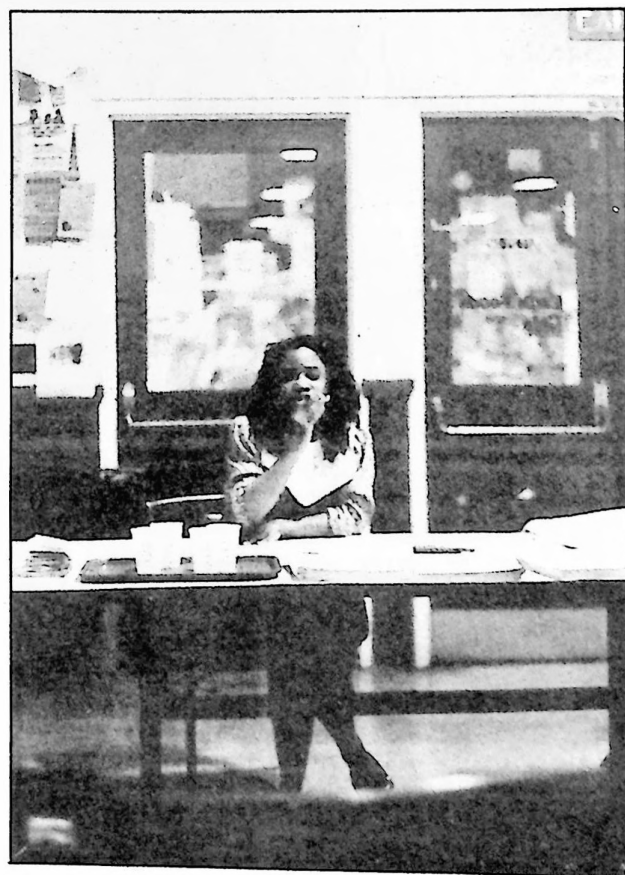
Laurie Jefferson is a member of the Black Women's Health Project of Massachusetts, Program Director of the Reproductive Health Program for the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, and an instructor in women's health at the Mass. State Correctional Institute in Framingham.

Ms. Jefferson stressed that women need to be well-informed about gynecological issues. She cited cases of overt abuse that occurred in the U.S. in the early 1970's, but said that sterilization abuse now is more subtle and covert.

Despite the fact that HEW guidelines passed in 1974 stated that no sterilizations may be performed on women under 21 years of age, and later that sterilization must be voluntary and be accompanied by informed consent, studies done in 1978 and in 1980 showed that two-thirds of U.S. hospitals were not complying with the HEW standards. Here we see how covert pressures and prejudicial attitudes prevail despite institutionalized guidelines.

Ms. Jefferson described how physicians try to impose white upper-middle class cultural values (of 2.5 children per family) onto others. Many physicians actually favor compulsory sterilization because of cultural prejudices and racism, thinking that women don't know how to use birth control methods effectively (instead of considering why a particular method is less effective) and thinking that what they consider to be "excessive" childbearing is somehow deviant. For family planning counselors, sterilization is convenient and denotes "success" for the counselor in preventing pregnancy.

Related to sterilization abuse is infertility among Black women. Black women have an infertility



rate 1 1/2 times higher than that of white women. Infertility can be caused by lack of medical treatment for conditions such as pelvic inflammatory disease, gonorrhea, or fibroids. Furthermore, scant or nonexistent medical treatment is a condition of

poverty with its inaccessibility to resources for medical care. Once again, we see the interrelationships among oppressive systems--socio-eco-

continued on page 12

Sterilization Abuse Continues

In Memorium

Wilma Scott Heide, one of the most respected of feminist/human rights scholars and activists in the world, died on May 8, 1985 in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Heide earned a Diploma in Nursing from Brooklyn State Hospital; an A.B. in sociology and psychology, and a Litt.,M. in sociology and nursing from the University of Pittsburgh; and a Ph.D. from the Union for Experimenting Colleges and Universities.

Active in the civil rights movement in the 1950's and 1960's, Ms. Heide was elected chair of the National Board of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 1970. She served as President of NOW from 1971 to 1974. During her leadership, NOW grew from a membership of 3,000 to over 50,000 worldwide, and actively challenged the government, major corporations and the media to change discriminatory policies and practices.

Dr. Heide served as visiting professor and scholar at several universities, consultant to various state education associations and innumerable colleges, churches and many branches of the government, education and social organizations.

A former Human Rights Commissioner for the State of Pennsylvania, she served on the editorial board of Human Policy magazine, the National Advisory Board of the American Civil Liberties Union, the National Women's Political Caucus, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the

National Board of the Coalition for Human Needs and Budget Priorities.

During her lifetime Dr. Heide actively demonstrated intellectual force, caring and commitment in articulating the women's movement imperatives for society. In both her writing and her public speaking she was described as "outrageously witty," "compelling," "a gentle revolutionary," "brilliant humorist," "sensitively articulate."

A partial list of her speech titles illustrates her radical perspective and wit: "NOW, for the Feminist Menopause that Refreshes," "Yes, There is a Sanity Clause: It's the ERA," "S/heroines: Prophets for an Educated Future," "Peace Meal - Recipes for Security," and "Trans-masculinism--Beyond Balls and Bombs."

Two books that demonstrate the scope and power of Dr. Heide's life and work are scheduled for production in the fall of 1985. *Feminism for the Health of It* weaves together Dr. Heide's unique humor, her creations of new words, and astute analyses of a broad range of social and political issues including scholarship, economics, medicalization of health care, communications and the media, and international policy.

A *Feminist Legacy: The Ethics of Wilma Scott Heide* by ethicist Eleanor Humes Haney includes a biography of Wilma's life, a history of NOW just prior to and during Wilma's presidency, and a study of feminist ethics that emerged from Wilma's life and work.

Up to Poverty Level

By Julie Martinez

Many welfare recipients and their friends are not aware of Senate Bill 230, "An Act to Ensure Minimally Adequate Grants for Recipients of AFDC and GR". This bill is very important for recipients of AFDC and GR, who are now living at 40% below the poverty level according to the government definition.

The bill will require that AFDC and GR grants be raised to a federally established poverty level and annually in the future to meet that level. Current laws contain no minimum standards for the amount of AFDC and GR benefits.

The governor of Massachusetts has proposed a 5% increase in current grants, but when grants go up, food stamps go down. When this is taken into account, the 5% proposed by Dukakis is still inadequate to meet the cost of living.

Welfare benefits are currently more than 40% below the poverty level. Prior to 1970, AFDC grants

plus food stamps placed people just above the poverty level. Since then prices have tripled, but grants have gone up only 26%.

The Women's Legislative Caucus is lobbying for an amendment to Senate Bill 239 that would increase grants by 25% over the next three years; this would at least bring living standards up to the poverty level.

Supporters of S.#239 have been organizing to reach recipients and all citizens, asking them to write to their legislators and State Representatives urging that the bill be passed.

On April 18, 1985 a group of parents and Western Massachusetts residents rallied at a hearing at the State House in Boston. The Committee for Human Services and Elderly Affairs listened to testimonies from former recipients, parents, teenagers and state legislators. The Committee unanimously

cont'd p.10

Both books were in press at the time of Dr. Heide's death, and her daughters have requested that memorial gifts be sent to the pub-

lishers to assist with the cost of publication. The books will be put out by Margaret daughters, Inc., P.O. Box 70, Buffalo, NY 14222.

PLEASANT JOURNEY

The Alternative in the Valley

The Best Selection
of Toyotas Around

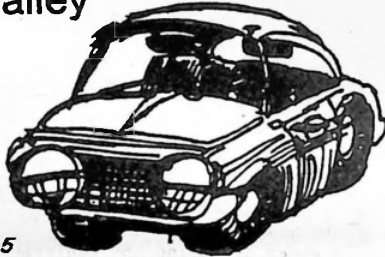
Corner of Pleasant and Conz St.

Northampton, Ma.

(413) 586-8150

(Bob, John and Mark)

Monday through Friday 9-6 Saturday 10-5



THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

BY

EMMA
MISSOURI

CERTIFIED MASSAGE THERAPIST

584-4504

Perkins Construction

- Contracting
- Designing
- Consulting

Solar and Superinsulated
Houses, FmHA Experience

Anne Perkins, RFD 4
Orange, MA 01364
617-544-6385

Ali Cat

Early Childhood Materials

Featuring a wide variety of toys, games, books, puzzles, records and tapes, including a selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist items.

30 Main St., Amherst 256-1609

Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:30-5:30



SYNERGETIC ALIGNMENT THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

beth emming Lic.Ms.T.
256-0031

Food For Thought



Books

has



~ T-SHIRTS! ~

m-sat. 10-6, sun. 12-5

Food for Thought Books
67 N. Pleasant Street
Amherst, Mass. 253-5432



LORRAINE LIPANI

This Summer,
Explore Yourself.

- *Massage for Partners
- *Intuitions
- *Self Heal Circle

Classes forming now in
Northampton (413) 665-7577

STRUCTURAL AND SYSTEMIC THERAPY
WITH INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, FAMILIES

MARGARET KIERSTEIN

LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER

ORGANIZATIONAL CONSULTATION CLINICAL SUPERVISION

Offices in Greenfield & Northampton

SLIDING FEE SCALE (413) 665-3716

LYNN ZASHIN, M.D.
and
AMY JACOBSON, P.A.-C.

Family Practice

33 RIDDELL STREET
GREENFIELD, MA 01301
(413) 774-2738

Pregnant? Considering Abortion?

Hampden GYN Associates
offers confidential counsel-
ing and assistance for 1st
and 2nd trimester abortions.

Mon - Fri 9 - 5
110 Maple St., Spfld.
732-1620
Serving women

in New England since 1973
Mass. Medicaid Accepted

584-9547

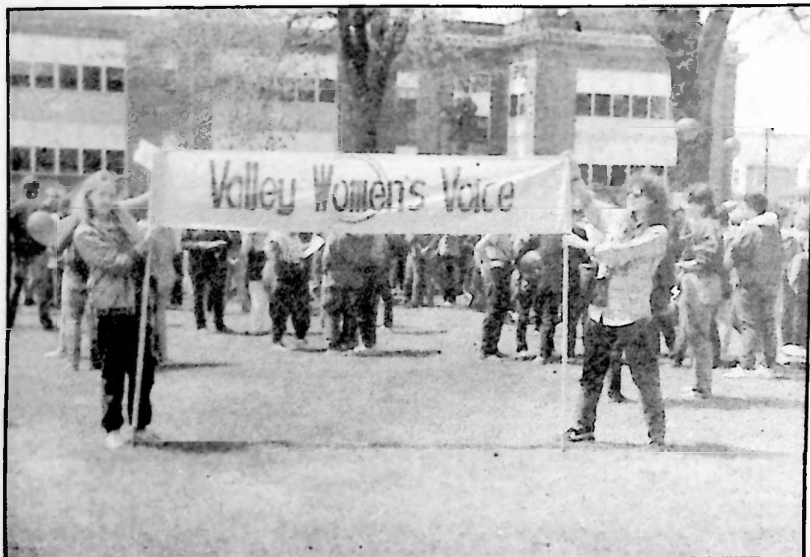
Pioneer Valley Headquarters for All Your High Fidelity Needs

Stereo Components • Compact Discs/Players
Tapes, Accessories, Replacement Styl
Car Stereo (& Installation)
Full Service Department

584-9547

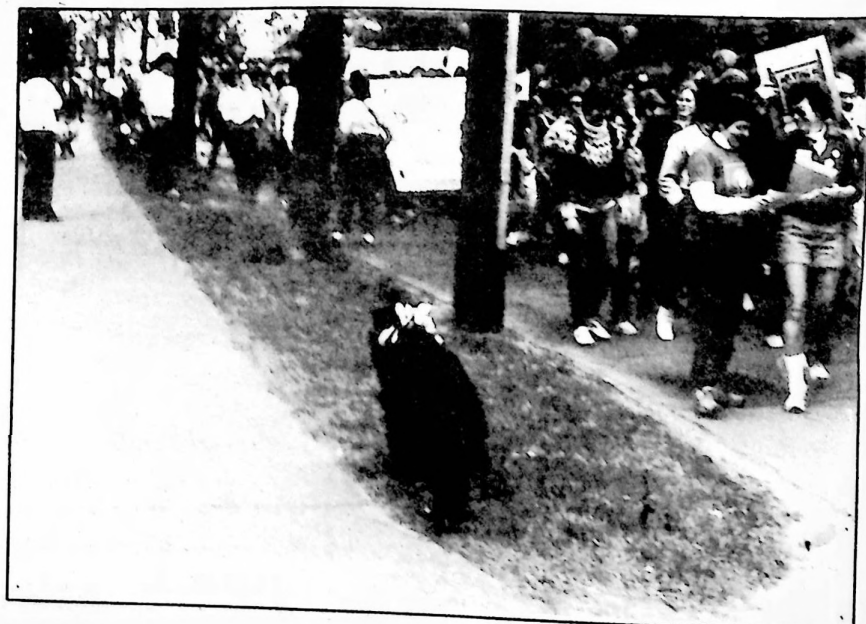
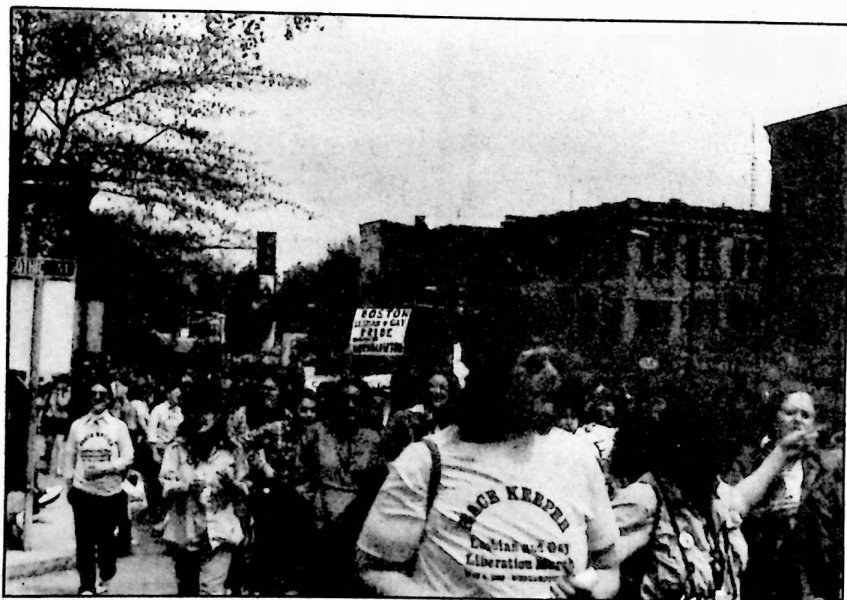
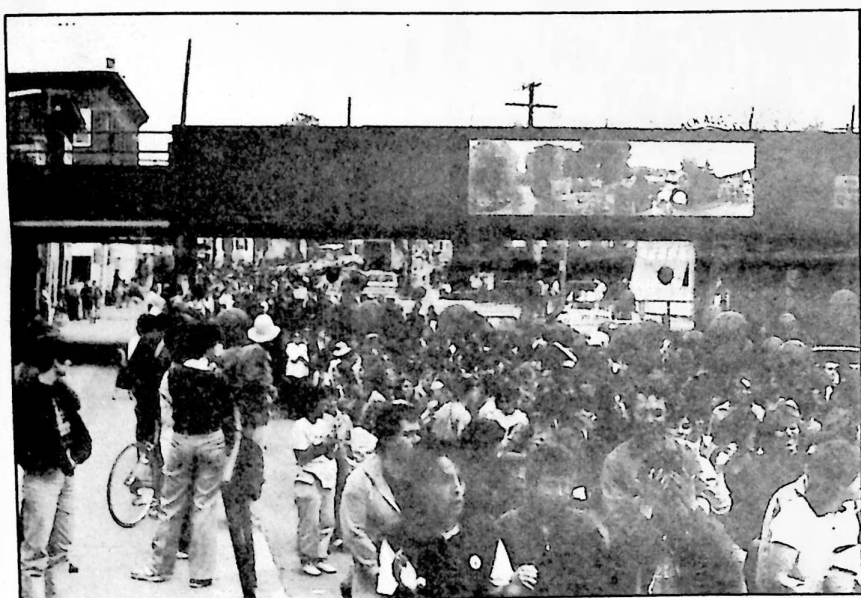
Sound & Music

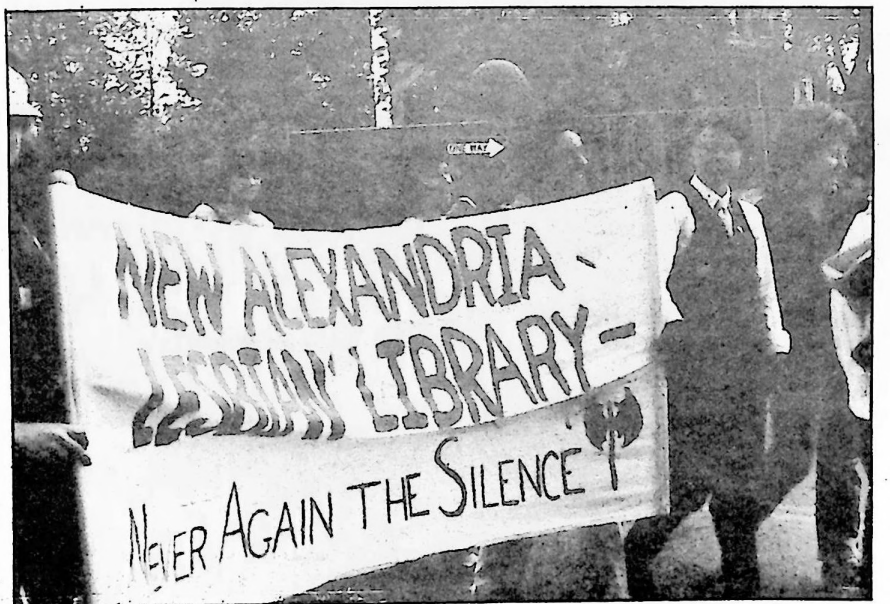
90-92 King Street (Rte. 5), Northampton
Good Advice, Honest Price Our 8th Year



Celebrating Our Diversity and Unity

Over 2,000 lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their allies gathered together to celebrate Northampton's 4th Annual Lesbian and Gay Liberation March on May 4th. The occasion was a festive one, without incident. Many people stayed on to hear the various speakers and singers. A continuous theme woven through the afternoon was the diversity of Lesbian/gay people, and the unity of all people.

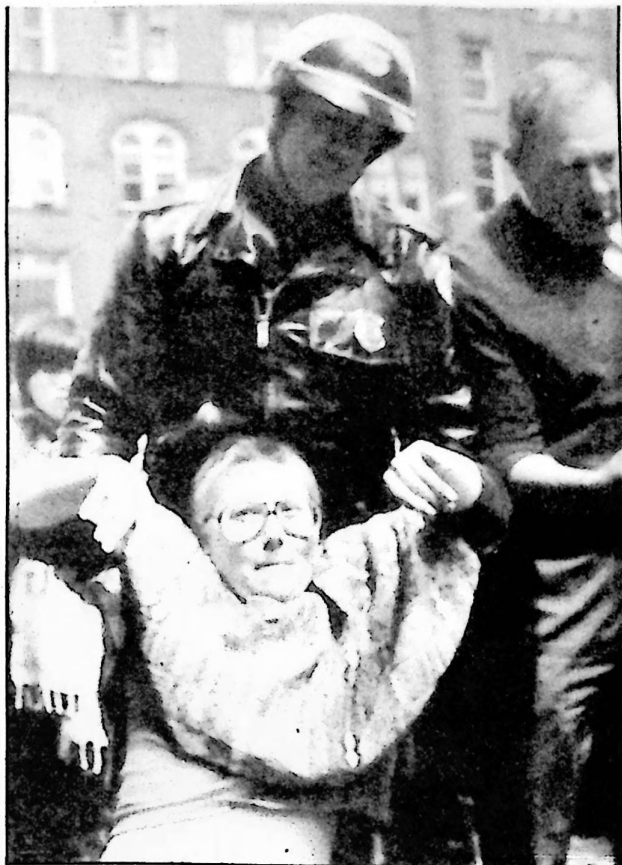




Embargo Protesters Arrested in Springfield



Photos
by
Jane
Cleland,
Article
by
Karen
Brandow



On Tuesday, May 7, over 150 people were arrested for blockading the Federal Building in Springfield. The action was part of a nationwide response to the trade and travel embargo Ronald Reagan imposed on Nicaragua. A common theme of the action was "Embargo South Africa, not Nicaragua", in the recognition that human rights abuses are far more common in South Africa, yet the U.S. government maintains an amicable relationship with that government.

Free Nicaraguan coffee and "travel passes" to Nicaragua were offered by women's affinity groups to passers by, as well as literature that explained the realities of life in Nicaragua. A number of the 400 activists present had spent time in Nicaragua and other Central American countries; we knew the embargo was aimed at starving the Nicaraguan people and economy, thereby encouraging discontent with the Sandinistas. We saw this as just one more step in the U.S. government's military, economic and political efforts to stop the Nicaraguan people from determining their own way of life.

There are presently two to three thousand U.S. citizens living in Nicaragua and working to support the survival of the Sandinista government; this action was one way we in the U.S. could show our support.

The arrest, jail and court experiences we've encountered thus far correspond with a national trend of severity being shown to activists in the legal system. The Springfield police seemed somewhat unprepared for the mass civil disobedience, and many were unnecessarily harsh in their treatment of the nonviolent resisters.

Some people were roughly dragged and kicked, and several bystanders merely taking notes or badge numbers were thrown into paddy wagons illegally. We were kept in single jail cells for 8-12 hours with no food, no blankets (and it was cold!), no telephone calls and no access to lawyers.

At our arraignments the judges made it quite clear that they were not interested in hearing a word of why we found it necessary to protest the U.S. policy towards Nicaragua. In short, we are being handled in the same manner as most "ordinary criminals", which is an educational experience for many of us.

There are currently about 100 people facing a \$100 fine and/or 30 days in jail for criminal trespassing, and the outcome of our cases is still unknown. Our stance is clear: we feel an obligation as citizens to speak out when we see our government violating international law and continuing a war in Central America against our will. As one Boston activist said, "I see it as a patriotic act."

Governmental concern with political movements in this country is increasing, as evidenced by stiff jail sentences given to religious leaders active in the sanctuary movement, and FBI surveillance of people who have visited Nicaragua.

If there is anything heartening in this, it is that perhaps we are being seen as dangerous to the powers that be. It is our job to make ourselves more dangerous in the coming months. If the U.S. Congress votes to fund the Contras this month, we will be on the streets again, along with thousands of others across the country. Please join us.

Note: Photographer Jane Cleland was arrested while taking pictures of police violence.

Poverty Level, cont'd



backed Senate Bill 239.

In the Massachusetts House on May 21, the proposal was approved on a 90-58 vote after the chair of the Human Services Committee, Rep. Joseph DeNucci, led the fight for a 10% increase in benefits. Many women legislators backed this aspect of the budget debate that is now going on in the state capital.

According to the Springfield Morning Union, the heated AFDC issue "generated an unusually attentive audience of legislators. They actually listened to the discussion and weighed the arguments for one of the few times during the long budget debate."

The bill now goes to the Senate floor and if passed there, must reach Governor Dukakis to be signed into law before July 1, the start of the state's fiscal year. To express support or find out who your legislators are, write or call Mary Quinn of the Coalition for Basic Human Needs, 595 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge MA 02139 (617)497-0126.

More information can be had by calling the Third World Women's office at Everywoman's Center in Amherst, 545-0883.

Womonfyre, cont'd

"We were on pins and needles all day," she says of that Wednesday. The *Voice* interviewed her the day afterwards, a day she describes with relief as being, "quiet." She talks of plans for the future to leave no staff member of the store alone at night or during less busy times of the day. "People have volunteered to visit us," she says, and adds, "I feel really good about all the support we've been getting, not only lesbians but gay men. It's been really good, it makes us feel better about the situation." Even Jil, who, unlike the new staff, has been through a similar experience because of the harassment two years ago, goes home at night "freaked out." But, she says, "You can't live your life in the shadows."

The publicity about the recent harassment has had the additional effect on her of advertising to the area that she is a lesbian. The reporters who so carelessly printed her full name, "... wouldn't feel easy either if their name was printed in paper and somebody was still at large."

Jil is also worried about being evicted if the trouble continues. "If they [the harassers] manage to unnerve the landlord, it's a real possibility that we may be asked to leave," which would mean the end of the bookstore, says Jil.

Jil believes that the Lesbian and Gay Pride march, held earlier this month, "is causing a reaction which is coming back to Womonfyre" because, "... We can't just go home after the march. We're here, we're visible." She also points to other forms of

harassment, such as the painting over of the woman's symbols on the underpass coming into town, using a white circle with a slash through it (like the ghost busters symbols or international no parking sign). She hopes for a community meeting, so that people will know that they are not alone in their fear and anger.

As of press time, GALA, Gay and Lesbian Activists, has planned an open community meeting for Wednesday, June 5th. GALA member Kathryn Millis asks that people who cannot make it to the meeting please contact GALA to find out how they can help. People are needed who have experience working with the media, who have legal experience, and people who can volunteer to be at Womonfyre so that staff members are not alone. They also would like to know if there are people with spare rooms who can house people who do not want to walk home late at night. Like Jil, Millis notes that "things were very quiet before the march," and that "since the march there have been a number of incidents of harassment of which this is the most well-known." She speculates that the march may have sparked some homophobic reactions, or that perhaps some harassers were waiting until after the march to step up their attacks. "This is summer," Jil commented, "People want to relax... it's unnerving" to be harassed now.

Millis urges people to write or call the local media about their coverage of these incidents of harassments. "This should be front page news."

Ocean Getaway

The Rockport Lodge in Rockport, Massachusetts is a non-profit vacation spot for women. It is located in an ideal setting: a 10-minute walk from the center of town and another 10 minutes from a rather secluded section of the North Shore ocean.

Nearby paths provide the luxury of quiet walks and plenty of fresh air. It is a cozy, casual place with an airy atmosphere where women of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy themselves.

The history of the Lodge spans several generations and historical periods in reflecting women's lives and activities. This history is not only in the air, but is alive and in the making.

The Lodge was founded in 1906, during the "social reform era" of the 1880s-1920s. Many women then, because of their involvement with women's rights and issues, also gave significant energy to the social reform movement of the time. Immigrant and middle-class women worked together on crucial issues like work conditions and wages, tenement/slum housing, medical and health services, accessibility of education, and child labor.

One of the many responses to the exhausting working and living conditions of inner-city working girls and women at that time was the founding of healthy, country retreats. They popped up on the outskirts of major cities throughout the country.

The Rockport Lodge was established by the League of Girls Clubs, formerly known as the National League of Women Workers. The purpose of the retreat was "to provide a vacation for women of low or moderate income"; the League's motto was "To Have and To Share". The intent of both the purpose and the motto continue to this day, and women who were vacationing at the Lodge as many as 50 years ago still do so today.

A former apple orchard provides spacious grounds and the setting for the two residential buildings, one of which is a rather grand farmhouse originally built in the 1750s. Each building houses from 22-25 people; a large barn serves as an indoor recreation facility.

Presentations will be held at the Lodge by a botanist, an oceanographer, an historian and others. A two-day Herb Garden Workshop is slated for June 12 and 13, and the Rockport Lodge History Week begins Labor Day weekend.

Rates range from \$30-35 for an overnight including 3 meals, to \$108-175 for a full week, all meals included. Retreat or workshop groups can be accommodated, and The Barn is available for rental. The Rockport Lodge can be reached from 9-11 AM and 3-8 PM at (617)546-2090.

Subscribe!

COPIES

IN A
FLASH

OPEN
FRIDAY 8-11 PM
SATURDAY 8-11 PM
SUNDAY 11-5

Collective 256-6425
25 N. Main St., Albany, NY

The Highlands Inn

Innkeepers: Judith Hall
Grace Newman

P.O. Box 118V
Valley View Lane
Bethlehem, NH 03574
(603) 869-3978

A SPRINGTIME FANCY

A special place for friends and lovers. Secluded setting on 100 acres at the end of a country lane. Beautiful mountain views. Charming guest rooms. Gracious common areas. Crackling fires at night. Peace and quiet always. Come see what you've been missing.

PAINTING, Etcetera

Interior & Exterior Painting/Staining • Wall & Ceiling Repairs • Floor refinishing • Wallpapering • Deleading/Paint Stripping • Consulting • Local References • Will Travel

Joan Wilce, contractor, Box 291, Leverett, MA 01054, (413) 549-7532
Fully Insured

WOMEN'S COUNSELING ASSOCIATES

FEMINIST THERAPY FOR WOMEN AND THEIR FRIENDS

LIZA HEWAT, M.A., M.Ed.
SUSAN WEINBERG, M.A.

Offices in Albany & Pittsfield
(518) 462-2367

Sliding Fee Scale
(413) 274-6992

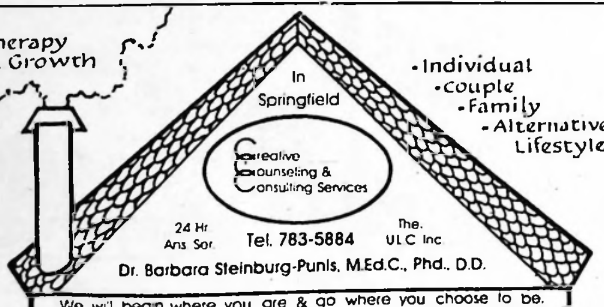
Equity Institute, Inc.

Consultation and Workshops

on
Racism • Sexism • Classism
Sexual Harassment • Anti-semitism
• Employment Discrimination •

Equity Institute, Inc.,
Box 458
Amherst, Mass 01004
413-256-6902

Psychotherapy
Personal Growth



CAN WE TALK?

Whatever problems are causing your discomfort, counseling unlocks new doors...

The technique is finding the right key.

Take the next step... open doors for yourself...

VALLEY WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS, INC.

KARATE & SELF DEFENSE
FOR WOMEN & GIRLS



INSTRUCTORS:
JANET AALFS
BETH HOLT

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 1064
EASTHAMPTON, MA 01027

BUSINESS ADDRESS:
1 COTTAGE STREET (RTE. 141)
EASTHAMPTON, MA 01027
(413) 527-0101



Shirley Sicurello,
M.Ed., L.C.S.W.

Individual,
Couple, Group
Psychotherapy

(413)628-3990
16 Center Street
Northampton, MA

Intensive language courses

• 8-person classes • Accredited
• 3-week and 6-week summer intensives \$125 per week
• Year round Evening Foreign Language and Intensive English

CHINESE • ESPERANTO • FRENCH
RUSSIAN • SPANISH and 7 more!

Next Programs
JUNE 3 - JULY 12
JULY 22 - AUGUST 30

International
Language
Institute, Inc.

P.O. Box 516, Northampton, MA 01060
413-586-7569 AME:01

Sterilization, cont'd

conomic, medical and governmental-- which work together to maintain control for a white male-dominated society.

Mikki Aganstata is an Eastern Cherokee descendent and is employed as Indian Affairs Coordinator by the Department of Environmental Protection for the State of Connecticut.

Ms. Aganstata talked of how Native American women held very different statuses from European women and said that whereas "Indian women are leaders, European men owned their women."

Ms. Aganstata described the system for Indian health care set up by the U.S. government for on-reservation. This situation is similar to that of Puerto Rico where nurses and doctors are from another culture, speak another language, and subscribe to different values from the Native Americans.

For Native Americans living off-reservation, the health care they receive is contingent on their economic situation.

However, Ms. Aganstata noted, a definite positive trend is appearing in Indian health care. In 1978 the Self-Determination Act was passed, giving Indian tribes the right to control health care on the reservations.

In that same year the first Native American Director of Indian Health Services was appointed. Aganstata said that health care has improved substantially with these changes, and should continue to do so in the future.

In addition to the three panel speakers who provided a historical perspective and current information about issues related to sterilization abuse on Third World women, the film "La Operacion" was shown.

Conceived of and directed by Ana Maria Garcia, the film traces the history of U.S. population control policy in Puerto Rico since 1898; portions of interviews with Puerto Rican women who have been targets of this practice were interspersed throughout.

Around the turn of the century, U.S. corporations began to base them-

selves on the island of Puerto Rico, largely because they could pay the workers much less than they would have to in the United States. The economy of the island was interfered with as well with the practice of sugar cane cropping--the profits being funneled off the island.

The result of this intervention was unemployment and loss of land-holdings for many Puerto Ricans. The subsequent poverty and cultural tendency toward families larger than the Americans', led the U.S. to enact discriminatory population control policies which included a massive sterilization drive.

The U.S. philosophy was that the poverty on Puerto Rico was caused by an excess population. Not only was sterilization of women used, but a propaganda campaign encouraged many Puerto Ricans to emigrate to the United States.

The statistics cited in the film are shocking. By 1946, 64% of Puerto Rican women living on the island had been sterilized in U.S. government-sponsored clinics. By 1953 these numbers had risen to 17 percent. And by the year 1974, thirty-five per cent (more than a third) of Puerto Rican women, with an average age of 26 years, had been sterilized--many without full knowledge of the nature of the operation.

Despite these extreme efforts by the United States, the problem of poverty still exists on Puerto Rico, where roughly 3/5 of the population lives below poverty level.

The abuse of sterilization has been based on the myth that overpopulation is the cause of poverty. According to a 1981 article in the New York Times, "virtually all the authorities on world hunger agree that the problem is due not to overpopulation or a lack of food availability...The cause of hunger, it is agreed, is poverty and poor income distribution in most of the affected areas." [emphasis added]

Although the choice of sterilization should ultimately be personal and private, in reality a complex and interrelated system of medical practices, government policies and economic conditions determines individual women's choices around child-bearing.

The United States has a long history of forced sterilization of immigrant, Hispanic, Black, indigent and Native American women. Given this history, Third World women are justifiably suspicious of sterilization programs and unethical, discriminatory medical practices--especially in times of high unemployment and economic recession.

The panel presentation and film addressed these issues, placing them within a historical perspective, and showing the similarities and differences in the experiences of Black, Native American and Puerto Rican women.

If you would like more information on these issues, some organizations to contact are:

-- CARASA (Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse)
17 Murray St., 5th floor
New York, N.Y. 10007

-- National Women's Health Network
224 Seventh St., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

-- Third World Women's Program
Everywoman's Center
Wilder Hall, UMass
Amherst MA 01003

-- National Black Women's Health Project: Self-Help Division
450 Auburn Ave., N.E., #134
Atlanta GA 30312



In this space, we were originally going to feature, "We Promised Not to Tell," a play about father-daughter incest, with photographs by Haley and text by kol. Unfortunately, the photographs were lost by the store during development. We hope you enjoy instead, "Mary Surplus Value," a comic reprinted from a pamphlet by the Black Rose Collective, an anti-authoritarian group of men and women in the Boston area working to effect radical social change. We encourage women to submit their own material, so that we can have comics again next month; and many thanks to Haley and kol for their work.



Poetry

by Janis T.B. Wolf

Rehabilitation Blues

Last week my physical therapist told me
that if she didn't know better
she'd say I was almost normal
and I said if she knew me even better
she wouldn't say that at all.

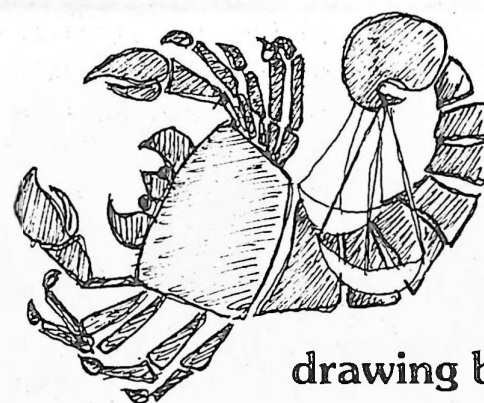
Yesterday my physical therapist told me
that perhaps the core of my problem
is that I'm fundamentally twisted
she asked if I remember any accidents or injuries
that could have contributed to this phenomenon
and I said it happened at the very beginning
when I was born on the Libra/Scorpio cusp
and I remain passionately ambivalent
even now.

Today my government told me
to go out and get a job
and I said that being able-bodied
isn't all that it's cracked up to be
and I offered to be a recipient
of a grant to study myself: my
mis-use of resources or reversal of evolution-
things this administration loves to fund studies of-
but the man remained firm.

I think this is outrageous
but I guess it doesn't matter.

Priorities

I track my cycle throughout the lunar month
not that I need to worry or reconcile
my course with the flow from the heavens; for after all
if I am chosen to bear the next messiah I
would hardly dare mess with the process.
but
when the black mood descends
and I can prove with impeccable logic
that the world is a dank dreary dungeon and I
am the lowliest peasant toiling in my shackles
I need to be reminded
that as the tides respond to the gentle pull of
celestial bodies, this too shall
pass; and if the sun rises again
another era will begin:
and as a feminist consciousness dawns on the world
I can't afford to be laid up with cramps.



drawing by
Natalie Krebs

Fantasies

someday
when I am rich and famous
or maybe just rich
my lover will bring me the Sunday paper in bed
and we will shred the Help Wanted
and use the embers
to reheat the coffee

someday
after the revolution
anyone who ever teased a feminist with cramps
will be taken out and shot
or maybe just tortured

and someday
anyone who ever disrupted a woman's thoughts
by leering or calling out rude remarks
will be herded into an open corral
to strive to live with dignity
while pedestrians jeer and throw popcorn

until then
I'll just do what I must
with a trace of a smile
and quietly plot revenge.

more submissions of graphic art welcome!

send to VWV c/o Wilder Hall, Everywoman's Center, Wilder Hall, UMass 01003

Feminist Forecast, cont'd

The stage is set for rebellion and revolution from the working class. Strikes and unions have the opportunity to expand benefit packages and secure increases in pay. Very possibly this is the time for Dukakis and the Commonwealth to compensate women at last for the innumerable decades of unfair wage practices.

Whatever the revelation, it will leave the people smiling and the politicians looking more corrupt than they usually do, which is never enough. In true Sagittarian style our faith will be renewed and our optimism restored.

On Thursday the 6th, we children will be full of woe. Venus' movement into her own lovely, sensual sign Taurus will go unnoticed, as the Sun and Mercury put the finishing touches on the exposé that is so disruptive. This Thursday is one of the worse days of the month so you are well advised to put things off for another day--the next one, which just happens to be the best day of the month.

Friday with her mystical number seven, her Aquarius moon, and an abundance of harmonious aspects and planets, brings blessings of great proportion. This should fortify us for the problems that Saturday presents, aspects that pick up on the third major influence of the lunation: interpersonal problems.

Fortunately, relationship problems can be kept to a minimum thanks to Neptune's compassion and the passage of Mars into Cancer, where it will sputter and steam but never burst into flames as it is so fond of doing.

Monday the 10th qualifies as the worst day of the month, and "Tuesday's just as bad". Wednesday requires the use of our sharpest investigative powers, for deceit and treachery are in the air. Mercury slips into the sign Cancer that day, subsequently trining Pluto, opposing Neptune and conjuncting Mars on Saturday the 15th, the last of the four worst days of June.

All this Mercurial activity will influence our communications, foreshadowing the New Moon of Tuesday, June 18th. At 7:58 a.m. in 27° of Gemini, the sign most concerned with information, this lunation brings much coming and going, talking and transactions, documents, agreements, and exchanges of all kinds.

Although Jupiter is not helpful, encouraging extravagance and over-indulgence, Mercury sextiles Venus in the wee hours of Thursday morn, bringing harmony and romance to our conversations. Friday, the 21st, is the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year.

Sunday is full of major temptations to overdo it in eating, drinking and spending. If we can control these tendencies until Monday night we will receive the gift of ordered and disciplined thinking. With this we can stabilize the compulsions that threatened us earlier.

June ends on a rather melancholy note. Feeling that our loved ones have disappointed us and that our environments are shabby and forlorn, we come down with a case of the blues and blahs. Mercury enters Leo

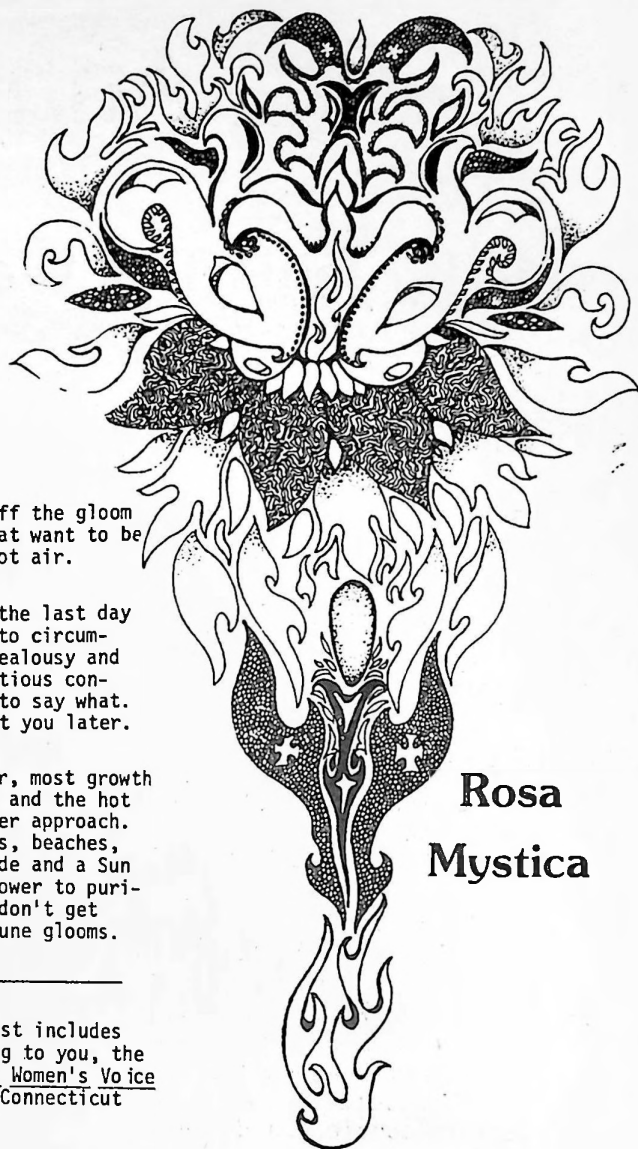
and we try to shake off the gloom with conversations that want to be grand but only leak hot air.

The final hours of the last day of June deliver us into circumstances filled with jealousy and manipulation. Be cautious concerning who gets you to say what. It may be used against you later.

The Sun is in Cancer, most growth has reached its peak, and the hot sizzling days of summer approach. With them come picnics, beaches, lots of playing outside and a Sun that burns with the power to purify and renew us. So don't get stuck in the end-of-June glooms.

Next month's forecast includes an innovative offering to you, the readers of the Valley Women's Voice and residents of the Connecticut River Valley region.

The Feminist Forecast is a project of High Altitudes, Inc. ©1985



Rosa
Mystica

Ink Drawing
by Judith Anderson

47 East Street
Hadley, MA 01035
(413) 584-2536

COMMON WEALTH PRINTING

A worker-owned business
Member United Electrical
Workers Local 264

	Printing From business cards to books		Camera Stats Veloxes PMTs
	Typesetting 74 fonts From Avant Garde to Zapf		Design & Paste-up Also expert bindery services

Gabriel Brooke, Innkeeper

Gabriel's

apartments & guest rooms

Informal Gatherings
Hot Tub & Sun Deck
In the Center of Town

104 Bradford Street
Provincetown, MA 02657
(617) 487-3232

holistic psychotherapy massage

Marion McIntire, Ed.M.
(413) 886-2313

Rosemary Christoph

M.A. Counseling

To resolve issues of loss, conflict, anger,
depression, need for spiritual direction
or life change.

Lesbian Feminist Therapist
15 years experience in counseling
For individuals, couples in conflict, families
Cost: \$20.00-\$35.00/session (1 1/2 hours)
sliding scale Call: 367-2087

Subscribe!

Deliah Rosel

MASSAGE THERAPY

16 Center Street
Northampton, MA 01060

(413) 586-5071
by appointment

ALL NEW!

PAPERBACK & HARDBOUND BOOKS

BOOKS OF PLEASURE
OF THOUGHT
& WORK

BROADSIDE BOOKSHOP

247 MAIN ST., NORTHAMPTON, 586-4235

inexpensive • romantic • yummy breakfasts

antiques • firm beds

swim • canoe • hike

wildwood inn

the welcoming
place

Brochure: 413-967-7798 Ware, MA 01082

So comfortable, alone or together • unwind

Sharon Weizenbaum, R.A.C.

Acupuncture

• So Tai Exercises •
• Childbirth and Women's Health •
• Chinese Dietetics and Herbs •

(413) 584-3847
by appointment

Please call for a free
diagnostic consultation.
I welcome your questions.

Joanne Gangi

- ★ Facial Rejuvenation
- ★ Glandular Balancing
- ★ Foot Reflexology
- ★ Reiki Practitioner

Free Initial Consultation (413) 586-5122

Announcements

A CARAVAN OF TRUCKS carrying agricultural tools and supplies for Central American farmers will be stopping in Springfield and Amherst on Saturday June 8th on its journey across the U.S. Tools and financial contributions should be sent to Oxfam America, c/o Maplewood Organic Farm, 132 Belchertown Rd., Amherst, or call 256-8384.

"CREATING POSITIVE VISIONS" conference for people with physical and sensory disabilities and their families, will be held at UMass Campus Center in Amherst. Personal care assistance available; signing for hearing impaired. For information or transportation call Deborah Reidy, (413)533-3584 or 536-2401.

HERESIES 20: FIRST STRIKE FOR PEACE will explore the expanded definition of peace and peace activism. Written and visual material wanted on issues of imperialism, racism, sexism, ageism; hunger, education, health, housing; reproductive rights, self-determination. Type manuscripts double-spaced in duplicate; 2000-word maximum. Visual materials in slides, photocopy or photograph. Send with SASE by June 30, 1985 to HERESIES, P.O. Box 766, Canal St. Sta., N.Y., NY 10013. (212)227-2108

TENTH NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL SUMMER Institute for Union Women will be held at UMass from July 28-Aug. 2. The conference is designed to help more women get involved in union activities and assume leadership roles. An informal setting where union sisters can exchange experiences with a variety of unionists, reinforce old skills and learn new ones, the Institute is open to all union women from the New England and mid-Atlantic states. Registration begins Sunday, July 28. Call Dale at 545-1922 for details.

WOMENCIRCLES, a special one-week conference for women will be held at Rowe Camp, July 28 to August 3. Open to all women, the conference is co-directed by Karen Lee Shelley and Wilderness Sarchild, both long-time activists for women and participants at Rowe. The week will be the creation of a spiritual community of women weaving together all the fragments women know. For program info, write Karen Shelley, 229 Elm St., Northampton MA 01060, or Wilderness Sarchild, Box 814, Eastham MA 02642. To register call Rowe Camp at 413-339-4216.

REAL LANDSCAPES AND OTHER DREAMS a watercolor show by Laura K., will be on display at Diana's Place on 48 Green St. in Northampton until Tuesday, June 11. Hours are Thurs.-Sat. 12-6 pm, Sundays 2-6 pm.

WOMEN TO HOUSE OTHER OUT-OF-TOWN women attending lesbian gay and bisexual conference "Celebrating Diversity and Unity" for evening of October 20th. Call Lifeline if interested at 253-2822.

ISO'S BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at the Bangs Community Center, Boltwood Walk, Amherst. We are open to new members and visitors. For further info, write ISO, c/o VAW, Everywoman's Center, Wilder Hall, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003.

TWO WOMEN WHO HAVE BOTH HAD PELVIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASE (PID), which is disabling, want to hear from any woman who has been cured of chronic PID or from any practitioner who has treated this disease with any success. We'd also like to hear from women who've had total hysterectomy for PID; we wonder if the infection actually was cured and the pain relieved. We'd appreciate any information for ourselves and for the other PID victims we're in touch with across the continent. Thanks. S.L. Diakopoulos, 45 Montrose Ave, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

NECESSITIES/NECESIDADES: is looking for women who can provide short-term shelter for battered women. Especially needed are Lesbian and/or Spanish speaking safe-homes. Please call 586-1125 for more information.

NECESSITIES/NECESIDADES: busca mujeres que pueden proveer refugio a corto plazo para una mujer abusada. Se necesita especialmente hogares seguros de Lesbianas y/o lenguaje español. Para mas informacion, por favor llame a 586-1125.

THE NEW ENGLAND LEARNING CENTER FOR WOMEN IN TRANSITION (NELCWIT): is seeking volunteers for its Volunteer Program. NELCWIT offers a variety of services to women and their families who are experiencing battering, rape or incest, or who are going through a major life change. If you are interested in becoming a NELCWIT volunteer or would like more information about future trainings, please call NELCWIT at 772-0871.

HUMAN SERVICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Work one-to-one with parents experiencing difficulties by providing support, information and guidance. Parents of young children willing to share that experience are particularly needed. Training and supervision provided. Call Children's Aid and Family Services at 584-5690.

OVER 30 LESBIAN SOCIALS to be held every first Tuesday and third Wednesday. Potlucks at members' homes. Write for details. P.O. Box 172, Amherst, MA 01003.

WERE YOU A VICTIM OF INCEST AS A CHILD and are you now taking steps to recover? A feminist therapist is gathering information about ways women have found to begin healing this childhood trauma, working toward publication of an anthology about recovery. All material will be kept strictly confidential. To participate in this study, please send for a questionnaire to Katia

LESBIAN PHILOSOPHY STUDY GROUP to meet over summer. The focus will be on how concepts influence everyday practices, looking at uses of language developed in the works of Frye, Raymond, Daly, Hoagland and Penelope. Please call Bett Farber in South Hadley, 533-5895.

PELVIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASE information sought by women of the Blue Mountains in Australia. Health workers ask for findings on herbal and natural treatments for hemophilus vaginalis, gardinella vaginalis or chlamydia as well as PID. Any literature/info is welcomed by Women's Community Health Centre, 198 Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls, 2782; New South Wales, Australia.

BEECHTREE, WOMEN'S LAND in the Catskills, is looking for lesbians to live, work and share a future where disabled lesbians can live without oppression, in health. Rooms (util. incl.) are \$125-175/mo. 2nd & 3rd floor camping space, \$5/night, \$25/wk. Work exchange and work available; disabled lesbians wanting to build cabins/apts. are asked to contact. Connie Panzarino, RD 1, Box 372; Forestburgh NY 12777. (914)794-4848

OUTDOOR TRIPS FOR WOMEN sponsoring a women's backpacking trip to the Adirondack Mountains in New York, June 20-23. This beginning four-day trip will introduce women to backpacking basics while enjoying summer wildflowers, cascading mountain brooks and a wind-swept summit. Experienced women backpackers also welcome. For info or to register, write Outdoor Trips for Women at 47 Butterhill Rd., Pelham MA 01002 or call (413)256-0898.

NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY TELEVISION will offer free television production workshop for women beginning in July. Contact Peri at 586-8856 weekdays after 3 pm for more information.

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR adolescent girls ages 13-21. Training, on-going support and supervision provided. For more information call SOJOURN 586-6807.

BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER NEEDS volunteers. Womanshelter/Companeras, a shelter in Holyoke for abused women and their children, needs help doing hotline counseling, legal advocacy, childcare, fundraising and community education. Bilingual/bicultural volunteers especially sought. Training will begin in early June. Call 536-1629.

HELP! THE NORTHAMPTON SURVIVAL Center needs volunteers to help staff the Center. Help others to enjoy the summer!! Donate your time. The Center's hours are: Tues. and Wed. 11-3 pm, Thurs. 6-8 pm, and Sat. 10-12 Noon. Call 586-6564 for more information.

Announcements are published free of charge to all non-profit organizations and individuals who are offering community services or looking for information. As of July, therapy groups and workshops which charge a fee will be listed under a separate heading. The cost of listing an event under this heading will be 25¢ per word, as with the classifieds.

June Calendar

JUNE 7-8

Creating Positive Visions: a conference for people with physical and sensory disabilities and their families. Friends, neighbors, journalists, advocates, political leaders and professionals are also welcome. See Announcements for more info.

JUNE 8

The Flower Foundation sponsors a Wimmin's Dance at 8:30 pm. \$2-10 admission at the Northampton Center for the Arts (across from the Academy of Music). Juice and soda will be sold (no diet drinks or alcohol) and there will be free popcorn. The building is wheelchair accessible. The event is a fundraiser for For Love of Womyn Economic Resources, a not-for-profit funding foundation for Western Mass. lesbians. (F.L.O.W.E.R. PO Box 602, Northampton MA)

JUNE 7-JULY 5

Sanctums and Interiors, an exhibit of eclectic furniture and furnishings by artist Gia DeBoer, will be at the Arts Council of Franklin County, corner of Main and Franklin Streets in Greenfield. The free exhibit may be viewed Tuesdays thru Fridays from 10-4 and Saturdays 9-1. An opening reception for the artist will be given Friday June 7th from 7-9 pm. The public is invited.

JUNE 11-JULY 30

"Perceptions of Self", a free eight-week group focussing on overcoming negative attitudes, goal assessment techniques, and building self-confidence. Sponsored by the Advocate Program at the Everywoman's Center at UMass/Amherst, the group will meet on Tuesday nights from 7-8:30. Call 545-0883 to sign up.

JUNE 16

Suzanne Vega at the Iron Horse 7-10 pm. Tickets are \$6 advance, \$7 door.

JUNE 18

Women, Work and Changes: a workshop for women changing and choosing jobs in their middle years. Jane Somer of the Smith College Career Development Office will give this presentation Tuesday, June 18th from 9:30-11:30 AM at the People's Institute, 38 Gothic St., Northampton. To preregister call the Displaced Homemaker Program at 584-9111 by 6/14.

JUNE 30

Clay Lady Productions presents Priscilla Herdman and Judy Small at the Iron Horse, 7 pm. Tickets are \$6 advance/\$7 door.

Looking to August

THE 10th MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL

AUGUST 8, 9, 10, 11, 1985
Hart, Michigan

For tickets & info send S.A.S.E. to:
W.W.T.M.C.
1501 Lyons Street
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
512/772-0582

featuring

Ferron, Holly Near, Teresa Thull and Barbara Higbie, Linda Tillery, Ronnie Gilbert, Casselberry and Dupree, DELUCE, Alix Dobkin, Maxine Feldman, Therese Edell, Somethin' Special, Woody Simmons, Kay Gardner, Mary Watkins, Debbie Fier, Nancy Vogl, Toshi Reagan, Hunter Davis, Lucie Blue Tremblay, Chevere, Edwina Lee Tyler & A Piece of the World, Deidre McCalla, Adrienne Torf, Diane Lindsay and Sue Fink, rhianon & Althea Whites, Make It Mime, Lillian Allen, Judy Sloan, Musica Femina, Robin Tyler, Kate Clinton, SunWomyn Ensemble, Sista Boom, Susan Freundlich, Ruth Barrett & Cynthia Smith, Laurie Lewis, Nancy Brooks, Gayle Marie, Kamala Platt.

Classifieds

PHOTOGRAPHER. Specializing in informal black and white portraits of children and families. Also gatherings of all kinds--conferences, plays, workshops, family reunions, special events. Mary Clare Powell.

586-8448 or 584-2645

Weight training and fitness consultant needed to provide individual consultation and supervision to lesbian interested in body conditioning.

584-4495

Graduate student needs housing within 20 minute drive to UMass., beginning July. Solo or share with one quiet woman 25+. I smoke cigarettes. Excellent long-term tenant. 203-232-7059

Motorcycle for sale: Honda 200 cc runs great; electric start. Luggage rack. Four years old, low mileage. Asking \$600. Call 549-2847.

WRITER'S HELPER. Do you have something you must write, but are intimidated by the task? I'm a writer and teacher who can help you think through, organize, compose and edit your research paper, article, business report, personal/creative work or Prior Life Experience Portfolio. Mary Clare Powell. 586-8448 or 584-2645

Free feminist kittens! Kittens of above average intelligence, cuteness and perseverance. They have been known to help edit the VVV in their spare time. Call 549-2847.

YES! Amazon Kittens still run free and no longer need mother's milk. Pls give them an Amazon home. Call 296-4353 after 7pm.

Women have Wisdom workshop by Tsultrim Alione. Slide presentation and discussions on the lives and teachings of great women teachers in Tibet, powerful energy manifestations called dakinis, tantric goddesses, and on the feminine principal in Tibetan tradition. Will also use breathing, sound, meditation and visualization. July 6-7, 10am-5pm, Beyond Words Conf. Rm., Thornes, N'hton. \$25/day, \$40/wkend [partial scholarships may be possible]. Call Anasuya 268-3556 (keep trying).